

Exhibit A

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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3 STEVEN E. GREER, M.D.,

4 Plaintiff,

5 v.

15 Civ. 6119 (AJN) (JLC)

6 DENNIS MEHIEL; ROBERT SERPICO;
7 THE BATTERY PARK CITY
8 AUTHORITY; HOWARD MILSTEIN;
9 STEVEN ROSSI; JANET MARTIN;
MILFORD MANAGEMENT, a New York
Corporation; and MARINERS COVE
SITE B ASSOCIATES,

10 Defendants.

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New York, N.Y.
March 21, 2017
4:35 p.m.

13 Before:

14 HON. JAMES L. COTT,

15 Magistrate Judge

16 APPEARANCES

17 STEVEN E. GREER, Plaintiff Pro Se

18 SHER TREMONTE LLP

19 Attorneys for Defendants Robert Serpico and
The Battery Park City Authority

20 BY: MICHAEL TREMONTE
JUSTIN J. GUNNELL

21 ROSENBERG & ESTIS

22 Attorneys for Defendants Howard Milstein, Steven Rossi,
Janet Martin, Milford Management, and
23 Mariners Cove Site B Associates

24 BY: DEBORAH E. RIEGEL
ISAAC TILTON

1 the real estate defendants came on board, so -- in my second
2 set of initial disclosures I absolutely provide all of the
3 rationale for damages.

4 THE COURT: It's not just a question of rationale,
5 though. It's a question of what documents, if any, do you have
6 in your possession that back up your rationale, so to speak?

7 MR. GREER: In that rationale it clearly explains that
8 IRS, tax, revenue, none of that is relevant whatsoever in the
9 valuation of my company. That's not how you value an
10 early-stage startup. I've done this in Wall Street.

11 THE COURT: That's your opinion about that. I don't
12 think your opinion gets us to carry the day and you get to
13 preempt what someone else wants to choose to do as far as how
14 to value a company is concerned. Then you can have an
15 argument about that down the road. That's not a basis to
16 withhold documents to the extent they exist.

17 MR. GREER: Except I specifically worded the damages
18 so as to not relate to revenue or income whatsoever. I am not
19 claiming any reduction in revenue or income.

20 THE COURT: Let's talk about that because I need to
21 understand what your damages claims are going to be going
22 forward because that determines what the scope of discovery
23 related to that should be. For example, I've had many cases
24 where a plaintiff, in a variety of contexts, let's take
25 employment discrimination for one, decides that they do not

1 want to have to open their medical records to the employer and,
2 therefore, waives any right to seek emotional distress damages
3 in the case, for example, and, therefore, that no longer
4 necessitates any discovery related to it.

5 With respect to the claim for damages to your website,
6 what, if any, are you claiming? If you get to a trial in this
7 case and there is a verdict form that is going to be submitted
8 to the jury, will they be asked, from your perspective, to
9 award you as damages, and if it's a category in which you think
10 your business, if I can call it that, was harmed to a certain
11 amount of money, then the defendants have the right during the
12 discovery process to probe that claim on your part so that they
13 have a way to defend themselves.

14 MR. GREER: It's detailed in the initial disclosures.
15 The valuation is based on the output of my content, the
16 stories, and I've shown them the decrease in output since I've
17 been tied up in litigation, been forced out of New York. So
18 BatteryPark.TV stories have plummeted, my number of interviews
19 with doctors and so forth for the Healthcare Channel over the
20 last two years has gone down.

21 My evidence is output of content, distraction from
22 time off the job.

23 But the valuation of an early stage company, and I
24 give several comparables of other media companies like it, most
25 of them are losing tens of millions of dollars. Revenue and

1 BatteryPark.TV or as it relates to the Healthcare Channel.com,
2 either category?

3 MR. GREER: The only thing would be my company bank
4 statements.

5 THE COURT: I thought you said your bank statements
6 are intermingled with your own personal bank statements.

7 MR. GREER: Not inappropriately intermingled so to
8 make the LLC invalid. The same expenses overlap. The
9 apartment I live in is also the rent. That's just one example.
10 To show -- I would have to redact a lot of them, which I don't
11 have the time to or ability to do so.

12 THE COURT: Dr. Greer, you're alleging that you've
13 incurred damages between \$7 million and \$100 million due to
14 lost value of these companies, right?

15 MR. GREER: Yes.

16 THE COURT: What is the basis for that allegation?

17 MR. GREER: It's in the initial disclosures. It's
18 based on comparable sales, it's based on IPOs and sale values
19 of other media companies that resembled mine and which went for
20 hundreds of millions, so I'm being conservative.

21 THE COURT: Did you ever have any correspondence with
22 anyone about valuing your company?

23 MR. GREER: Yes. Over the years, since I started the
24 Healthcare Channel 10 years ago, I have met with every major
25 media company you can imagine, so I've had numerous discussions

1 documentation that you need beyond what you have, you'll tell
2 me after you further discussed it with him. That's what we are
3 doing on this subject.

4 MR. TREMONTE: Battery Park Healthcare. There, can we
5 have the revenue over time? That's a different business model.

6 THE COURT: The revenue over time.

7 MR. GREER: We just discussed this.

8 MR. TREMONTE: Mr. Greer says --

9 THE COURT: In what form, based on the conversation we
10 have had in colloquy, do you think there are documents that
11 memorialize its revenue over time? Because I didn't hear
12 anything.

13 MR. TREMONTE: Yes. He said they are subscribers.
14 They are individual subscribers who pay a fee. If that's the
15 case, there must be documentation of the payment and receipt of
16 those fees, every fee, by every subscriber.

17 THE COURT: That strikes me as very burdensome.

18 MR. GREER: It's also irrelevant, your Honor, because
19 I said revenue has nothing to do with the valuation.

20 THE COURT: That's your view of it.

21 MR. GREER: I'm an expert. I did this banking at the
22 highest level and my models are still used by Wall Street
23 executives now.

24 THE COURT: I really don't think that has any
25 relevance whatsoever to a discovery issue in this case. That's

1 your view of this. You can't inform what gets produced based
2 on your own view of that. I tried to ask you this before. I
3 really want to move along.

4 What documents, if any, exist that describe the
5 revenue that Healthcare Channel.com receives? What documents
6 are there? Let me ask it another way. If I want to be a
7 subscriber, tonight, when I go home -- and I can assure you I
8 am not going to be, for the record -- but if I wanted to go
9 home and subscribe to Healthcare Channel.com tonight, what
10 would I do? I would go online.

11 MR. GREER: It's a high-level Wall Street. It's not
12 some anonymous thing. It's like large deals and Wall Street.

13 THE COURT: How will I pay for my subscription?

14 MR. GREER: With a large check. With an invoice and a
15 large check.

16 THE COURT: How do I communicate to you that I want to
17 be a subscriber?

18 MR. GREER: It's the same way salespeople work in Wall
19 Street with clients. They call me, I reach out to them.

20 THE COURT: I can't go to the website?

21 MR. GREER: No, you can't pay on the website, no.

22 THE COURT: I can't go to Healthcare Channel.com and
23 subscribe?

24 MR. GREER: No. It's too big for that. It's a
25 \$10,000 subscription, your Honor. I just revealed something.

1 MR. TREMONTE: That is correct, your Honor.

2 THE COURT: And like all lawyers, you think you have
3 to have every single piece of paper in your hand before you can
4 ask him questions, and that is just a fiction. And get over it
5 and take his deposition and ask him the kinds of questions I
6 was asking during colloquy and see where it leads. And if it
7 leads you to the identification of actual documents that he
8 hasn't produced, then you ask him for them. And if he refuses
9 and you meet and confer and he still refuses, then you tell me
10 and we will be back and we will have another conversation.

11 OK. Next.

12 MS. RIEGEL: I think what we were hoping to avoid,
13 your Honor, and I hear you loud and clear, but I think what we
14 were hoping to avoid was two depositions where we deposed
15 Dr. Greer, we get additional documents, and we go back, but I
16 hear you.

17 THE COURT: I'm not promising anything. I don't know
18 how any of this is going to play out and you are going to run
19 out of time because it's already March 21 and we are finished
20 with discovery on April 14 and I've told you about 10 times I'm
21 not moving that date, even if there is an act of God that
22 intervenes. You are going to have to finish what you are doing
23 between now and then. For all the many obvious reasons you can
24 imagine why I'm holding you all. It's in your interests. The
25 longer we keep this going in discovery, the more fights you

1 going to rule on something that's not in front of me. You've
2 made a discovery request. You've alleged \$50,000 in damages.
3 They want all documents that you have related to that. You're
4 supposed to produce it within the discovery period. We have
5 said it before and we will say it again. Anything you don't
6 produce in the discovery period you can't use. So you better
7 figure out how to produce it to get to \$50,000.

8 MR. GREER: I'm in the middle of doing depositions.
9 Between now and April 14, I will attempt to supplement what
10 I've turned over.

11 THE COURT: Great. Next category.

12 MR. GREER: She mentioned other damages.

13 MS. RIEGEL: Next category of damage relates to the
14 claim for mental distress, anxiety and depression. We have
15 asked Dr. Greer for medical records or a HIPAA compliant
16 authorization with respect to the medical claims. He has not
17 provided either.

18 THE COURT: If you put that in play, you waive any
19 privacy rights you otherwise would have related to that. This
20 is what I was talking about earlier. If you don't want them to
21 look into that, you can waive your right to seek damages on
22 that basis.

23 MR. GREER: But I've answered it and they don't exist.
24 I'm a doctor. I treat myself for most things. I have not
25 sought any psychiatric, psychological therapy for mental

1 conduct by the defendants?

2 MR. GREER: In my initial disclosures I explained
3 that's valued by what other medical practices are worth and so
4 forth. No. I have no documents.

5 MS. RIEGEL: Judge, Dr. Greer's response to the
6 initial disclosure says that his claim for \$20 million is based
7 on his medical practice earnings or earning potential as
8 compared to other doctors in the area. It goes back to -- I
9 know your Honor said tax returns should be the measure of last
10 resort. But if he's talking about damages to his earnings as a
11 doctor or his potential earnings as a doctor, what he has
12 earned as a medical professional is relevant to his damage
13 claim.

14 THE COURT: Take his deposition first, inquire on the
15 subject. If you're unsatisfied and you believe you are
16 entitled to more, including his tax returns, review the case
17 law on the subject, which you will find, as you may well know
18 already, suggests that you don't, as a first matter, get
19 someone's tax returns. You only get them if they are uniquely
20 the source of information you cannot get from any other source,
21 including the deposition of the witness.

22 I am reserving on that question until after the
23 deposition. I think this whole issue about reputational
24 damages is amorphous enough that you need to explore it, pin
25 him down to sworn testimony, and then make a judgment that you

1 Dawson, Milstein, Soriero, Harvey, Ford.

2 THE COURT: And Rossi. That's eight. Plus two is
3 then. You have 10.

4 MR. GREER: I can't count.

5 THE COURT: You get 10, unless you want to substitute
6 the person you just said for someone else.

7 MR. GREER: Let's see if I want to substitute. Can we
8 substitute Gwen Dawson for Karl Koenig.

9 THE COURT: Now you don't have to talk to Ms. Dawson.
10 Mr. Koenig.

11 MR. GREER: Yes, Karl Koenig.

12 THE COURT: Karl Koenig. What is his position?

13 MR. GREER: It's high up. They have so many names. I
14 don't know.

15 MR. TREMONTE: He wasn't on our radar screen, your
16 Honor. We will have to confer with him.

17 THE COURT: I know. Sometime between now and April 14
18 you'll work it out.

19 MR. TREMONTE: Yes, your Honor.

20 THE COURT: I don't think I got an answer about when
21 Dr. Greer's deposition is going to be.

22 MR. TREMONTE: Dr. Greer proposed that final week.
23 That's amenable to us. The only question I have is I
24 anticipate, your Honor, we will, of course, do our level best,
25 especially in light of the Court's comments today, to keep our

1 postdeposition document demands to a rational minimum, but I
2 expect there will be some. If we make them that last week,
3 Dr. Greer will almost certainly need -- he will probably need
4 more time to produce. I assume that that's OK with the Court.
5 But his production --

6 THE COURT: In terms of the April 14 deadline?

7 MR. TREMONTE: For discovery.

8 THE COURT: If you make any postdeposition document
9 requests before the 14th, you are entitled to do that and
10 Dr. Greer, obviously, has to respond to them to you. And then
11 if there is any issue that flows from that, I'm sure I'll hear
12 about it, keeping in mind that I have a jury trial beginning
13 April 24 for two weeks, so you may not hear from me for a while
14 because, guess what, I work on other cases. Did you know that,
15 Dr. Greer? Are you aware that I'm not a one-case guy? Not
16 just your case.

17 To that end, by the way, I think someone at the back
18 table sent at 12:30 today a request to have phones brought in,
19 and I can't turn on a dime like that. If you need that sort of
20 relief, you have to ask me the day before.

21 MS. RIEGEL: We apologize, your Honor. It was the
22 court reporter and she had a child care issue and she was a
23 little exercised because she didn't realize she wouldn't be
24 able to bring in her phone.

25 THE COURT: Did it get worked out?